

O A K H A M

R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the

Y E A R E N D I N G

31st, D E C E M B E R, 1963.





OAKHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1963.

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my twenty-fifth Annual Report dealing with matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine:-

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52,551
Registrar General's estimate of population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,170
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,885
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£ 330,675
Sum represented by a penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Estimated	..	..	£ 1,350

TYPE OF DISTRICT.

The Oakham Rural District, which covers over half of the County of Rutland, is largely agricultural in character, but ironstone mining is carried out in some of the more northerly parishes. Two large Aerodromes have been built by the Air Ministry at Cottesmore and Edith Weston and there is a small R.A.F. Site in the parish of Greetham. One of H.M. Open Prisons is situated in the parish of Burley, about a mile to the north of Oakham. Except for a brewery at Langham, there are no major industries, and by its geographical position with no large towns in close proximity, the District continues to retain its rural character undisturbed by urban development.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births - Legitimate	121	127	248
Illegitimate	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>
	<u>125</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>257</u>

	<u>Rate for District</u>	<u>Rate for England and Wales.</u>
Birth Rate	21.3	18.2
Death Rate	11.2	12.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births.	42.7	20.9

1850-1851

1851

1852-1853

1853

1854-1855

1856-1857

1858-1859

1860-1861

1862-1863

1864-1865

1866-1867

1868-1869

1870-1871

1872-1873

1874



1876

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	4	5
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	-
Diabetes	1	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	3	7
Coronary Disease, Angina	10	4
Other Heart Disease	8	13
Other Circulatory Disease	2	4
Pneumonia	7	3
Bronchitis	3	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-
Congenital Malformations	-	1
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	3	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	8	-
All Other Accidents	-	3
Suicide	-	1
	<u>54</u>	<u>52</u>

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health. John Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. Camb.

The Medical Officer of Health acted for the Leicestershire and Rutland combined Districted in which this District was included.

Public Health Inspector. G.E. Wells, Royal Sanitary Institute, and Sanitary Inspector's Examination, Royal Sanitary Institute. Meat and Other Foods, & Certificates General Hygiene and Sanitary Egnineering.

The Public Health Inspector is also the Surveyor of the Rural District.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following examinations from your area were carried out during the year at the Public Health Laboratory, Leicester:-

Nose and Throat Swabs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Faeces and Urines	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Sputa	3
Milks	1
Waters	19
Food	2
Miscellaneous	3
Vaginal & Cervical swabs	4
								<u>57</u>

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PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1963.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>	<u>Cases Admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-
Measles	154	1	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-
Pneumonia	3	-	-
Dysentery	4	3	-
Food Poisoning	5	1	-

Four of the five cases of food-poisoning occurred at the R.A.F. Station at Edith Weston.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Under</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>65 and</u>
	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Over
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	4	15	25	19	20	66	4	1	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	-
Dysentery	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

Six new cases of tuberculosis were notified as under:-

<u>Age</u>		<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
		<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Under	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	- 15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	- 25	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	- 35	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	- 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	- 65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Three of these new cases were notified by the R.A.F. at Cottessmore.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply.

Number of Samples taken from analysis :-

(a) from wells	10
(b) from piped supply	8

Results from Samples taken :-

(a) from wells :-	Satisfactory	4
	Unsatisfactory	6
(b) from piped supply :-	Satisfactory	5
	Unsatisfactory	3

Number of wells :-

(a) closed.. .. .	1
(b) cleansed, repairs etc.	1

Number of cases in which piped supply was provided.. .. . 263

Number of Parishes with piped water supply :-

(a) from public mains	24
(b) from private reservoirs	2

Number of Parishes without a piped water supply 2

During the year two hundred and sixty-three additional water connections to houses were made and piped water supplies are now available to practically the whole of the dwellings in the Rural District. Only two parishes with very few houses, namely Leighfield and Martinsthorpe are without public or private piped water supplies.

There are private water supplies to thirty-one properties at Eggleton and Gunthorpe, and Cottesmore Aerodrome has its own water supply to four hundred and ninety-one houses at the Married Quarters there.

Water is provided to over two thousand premises in the remaining twenty-four parishes from the mains of the Leicester City Corporation which acquired this Council's water undertaking in 1959. Existing supplies in the northerly parishes of the District have been augmented by the Corporation from its mains in adjoining Districts. The Leicester City Corporation has also taken over the responsibility of supplying water to the North Luffenham R.A.F. Station (which includes a large number of properties in the parish of Edith Weston), and of providing a reserve supply for Cottesmore Aerodrome.

Water supplies in the District generally can be regarded as quite satisfactory in both quality and quantity. Analyses are made regularly by the staff of the Leicester City Water Department, and no case of plumbo-solvency has ever been reported in this area. The fluoride content of the water supplied in any part of the District is less than 0.2 p.p.m., and the Council decided at its meeting in January, 1963 that no objection be raised to any proposal for the addition of fluoride to water supplies in this area.

Particulars of the various piped supplies, as required by the Ministry of Health, are as follows :-

WATER SUPPLIESOAKHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Name of Parishes :		No. of dwellings with Piped Water Supply.	Farm and Other Connections.
Ashwell	L	87	19
Barleythorpe	L	42	7
Barrow	L	22	10
Braunston	L	105	19
Brooke	L	4	5
Burley	L	87	32
Cottesmore	L	137	31
Edith Weston	L	368	12
Egleton	P	23	4
Empingham	L	215	21
Exton	L	213	44
Greetham	L	153	20
Gunthorpe	P	8	1
Hambleton	L	51	28
Horn	L	5	3
Langham	L	269	33
Leighfield	-	-	-
Lyndon	L	31	6
Manton	L	92	16
Market Overton	L	127	26
Martinsthorpe	-	-	-
Normanton	L	13	1
Stretton	L	36	12
Teigh	L	25	14
Thistleton	L	29	11
Tickencote	L	16	2
Whissendine	L	208	31
Whitwell	L	20	10
Cottesmore Aerodrome A.M.		491	-
		<u>2877</u>	<u>418</u>

L. Leicester City Water Department Supply.

P. Private Piped Supply.

A.M. Air Ministry Supply.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area - continued.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Number of Cesspools constructed during the year.....	Nil
Number of Cesspools abolished during the year.....	72
Total number on 31st December, 1963.....	284

Attention was given (and general repairs were carried out as necessary) during 1963 to the existing sewers and village drains of the District. The modern sewerage systems and the sewage disposal works plants already installed at Braunston, Cottesmore and Greetham, Empingham, Exton, Langham, Manton and Market Overton continued to function satisfactorily, but in view of the accelerated rate of building in the village of Langham and the considerable extension of the Married Quarters at the Cottesmore Royal Air Force Station the Council's Consulting Engineers were requested to submit schemes for the enlargement of the sewage works serving those particular parishes.

The work of constructing the new sewage disposal works at Whissendine was completed during 1963, as was the enlargement and modernisation of the existing sewerage works at Edith Weston which were formerly used in connection with the Married Quarters of the Royal Air Force Station nearby. The villages of Edith Weston and Eggleton were also sewered, and in the case of Eggleton a pumping station was provided to enable sewage to be passed through to the disposal works of the Oakham Urban District Council for final treatment.

In addition, plans for the provision of a new sewerage system for the village of Ashwell were submitted by the Consulting Engineers and approved by the Council, and it is hoped that it will be possible for work on this improvement to be put in hand during the course of 1964.

The Council have again given very careful consideration to the possibility of sewerage the villages of Hambleton and Stretton, in connection with which schemes have already been drawn up but were deferred owing to the heavy cost likely to be involved due to the scattered nature of the properties in the parishes. While no further action is contemplated for the time being at Stretton, a modified scheme for part of Hambleton is being prepared.

During 1963 some further conversions of pail lavatories to water closets were carried out as shown in the figures given below.

Closet Accommodation

Total number in the District at the end of 1963:-

Water Closets	2697
Pail Closets	188

Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during the year :-

Pail Closets	31
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PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Council's arrangements for fortnightly collections of refuse by direct labour from houses in the villages of the District and weekly collections at the Married Quarters of the R.A.F. Stations at Cottesmore and Edith Weston were again carried out without interruption during the course of 1963, and very few complaints in connection with this service were lodged.

Tipping is still being carried out in disused ironstone railway cuttings at Cottesmore and Barrow, and on a site adjoining the Lyndon Road at Manton; use is also being made for this purpose of an old stone quarry at Empingham.

Collections of night-soil have again been carried out by direct labour in most of the unsewered parishes of the District, and the Council will also provide for the emptying by Contractors of the village septic tank at Ashwell until the new sewerage system to be provided is in operation. In addition several septic tanks situated on the Council's housing estates are attended to by Contractors from time to time.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The particulars given under this heading are for all purposes including those given elsewhere in this report.

Total number of complaints received 519

Total number of defects or nuisances discovered 483

<u>Nature of Inspections</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re-visits</u>
Dwelling Houses	616	1028
Tents, Vans, Etc.	27	67
Slaughter Houses	3	85
Dairies and Cowsheds	1	12
Offensive Trades	-	-
Animal Keeping	10	14
Workshops, Etc.	20	81
Shops	34	115
Other premises.	312	531
	<u>1023</u>	<u>1933</u>

The Public Health Inspector made 1245 visits to the various parishes of the District. In addition 5 visits were made outside the District.

Notice

<u>Preliminary.</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Others</u>
Outstanding 1st January	-	-
Issued during the year	414	69
Complied with during year	414	68
Statutory action necessary	15	3
Outstanding 31st December	-	1

Statutory

Outstanding 1st January	-	-
Issued during the year	15	3
Complied with during year	15	3
Statutory action necessary	-	-
Outstanding 31st December	-	-

Shops

34 Inspections and 115 re-visits were made to shops in the District during the year and action was taken in respect of the sanitary arrangements at two shops.

Camping Sites

Number of sites in the area used for camping purposes during the year 27

Number of camping sites for which licences have been issued 27

Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area during Summer months.. .. . 400

<u>Regulated Buildings</u>	<u>Number in District</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Tents, Vans, Sheds, Etc.	151	94

The figures shown under Camping Sites above do not include caravans or other temporary dwellings used on the local Aerodromes which are subject to the direct control of the Government Department concerned.

Two further applications by owners of caravan sites for licences under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 were considered by the Council during 1963, and as the necessary permission had already been obtained from the Town and Country Planning Department of the Rutland County Council for these sites to be used for camping purposes, licences setting out the sanitary arrangements to be provided there were issued.

Apart from several groups of vans at one of the R.A.F. Stations, the only large caravan encampment authorised here is at Langham, used chiefly during the summer months, but with some caravan-dwellings occupied during the whole of the year. Suitable sanitary accommodation and other facilities have been provided by the owner of the land to the satisfaction of the Council, and no complaints concerning the premises have been received from any of the occupants there.

PESTS CONTROL

A Pests Control Officer is employed jointly by this and four other nearby District Councils to deal with any infestations by rats reported in the area, and this arrangement is still working quite satisfactorily.

HOUSING.

Action under the Housing Acts during 1963 resulted in seven premises being closed as unfit for habitation and eight houses being demolished.

During the course of the year payment of forty-eight improvement grants under the Housing (Financial Provision) Act, 1958 and the House Purchase and Housing Acts, 1959 towards the costs of modernising private properties were approved subject to satisfactory completion of the works by the owners.

The total number of houses and bungalows owned by the Council at the end of 1963 was three hundred and ninety-nine, of which one hundred and nine were built prior to 1940.

The number of applicants for Council Houses on the Housing Register at the close of the year was one hundred and thirty-two of which sixteen were from persons living outside of the District, and twenty-one from tenants of Council Houses within the area who wished to exchange tenancies.

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

During 1963, three bungalows for elderly persons were completed and let by the Council at Empingham.

Forty-three houses were built by private persons during 1963. One hundred and thirty houses were constructed by the Air Ministry at the R.A.F. Stations at Cottesmore and Edith Weston where the Married Quarters are being considerably enlarged. The Ministry of Works also completed three dwellings at H.M. Prison Farm, Stocken Hall, Stretton for the use of staff there.

At the end of the year the Council had another twenty-seven houses and bungalows under construction. Of these, six houses and four bungalows for elderly persons are in the parish of Market Overton, and the other twelve houses and five bungalows are at Whissendine. The Council also have under consideration the acquisition of additional sites for house building purposes in several other villages in the District.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply.

Number of Dairies (not being Farm Premises) on Register	1
Number of inspections of premises	12
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year	-
Contraventions remedied during year	-
Number of contraventions outstanding 31st December	-

No ice cream is manufactured in this area for sale, but there are 26 premises on the Council's list from which pre-packed ice cream is sold.

Meat and other Foods.

Twenty-four inspections were made of Meat Shops, Meat Stores, Etc., and sixty-six inspections and re-inspections of premises where food other than meat is kept or prepared for sale.

The usual method of disposing of condemned food in this District is by burning.

	<u>In Jan. 1963.</u>	<u>In Dec. 1963.</u>
<u>Private Slaughter Houses :-</u>		
Number registered	-	-
Number licensed	3	-

MEAT INSPECTION

The arrangement made early in 1959 by the Council with the local butchers for inspections of animals slaughtered in the District to be carried out at times convenient to the Council was continued during the first six months of 1963, and the standard of meat inspected was still found to be very good.

From July 1st last, however, the killing of animals at the three slaughter-houses in this District ceased as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food under the provisions of the Slaughterhouse Act of 1958. The original date of 1st October, 1962 set for the closure of these slaughterhouses was deferred to enable the local butchers to make suitable alternative arrangements elsewhere for the slaughtering of animals or for the supply of meat from other sources. No difficulty seems to have arisen in this connection.

The figures appended below, therefore, relate to animals slaughtered here during the first six months of 1963.

	Beasts	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs
Number Killed	79	449	185
Number Inspected	79	445	182
All Diseases except Tuberculosis			
(a) Whole Carcasses condemned	-	-	-
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	4	2
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	1.23%	0.90%	1.10%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>			
(a) Whole Carcasses condemned	-	-	-
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-
(c) Percentage of number inspected with tuberculosis	-	-	-

	Beasts	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>			
(a) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-
(b) Carcases submitted to treatment by regrigeration.	-	-	-
(c) Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

The whole of the shops in the District were inspected during the course of 1963 for the purpose of securing compliance with the above Regulations. It was found that, generally speaking, the shops were very well maintained and the requirements relating to the handling of food were being observed in a satisfactory manner. It was, however, found necessary in one case to require the redecoration of the part of the premises used as a shop and also to notify the occupier of another shop to provide suitable means for the provision of constant hot water there. In addition some alterations of the drainage arrangements at yet another shop had to be carried out following the installation of a new sewerage system in the village concerned.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 - Section 47 - Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It was not necessary during 1963 to take legal action to remove any elderly persons to suitable Homes under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act. Enquiries were, however, carried out in several cases where it was believed possible that old people were living in difficult circumstances, but in no instance was intervention by this Council required to secure the removal of persons concerned.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,

JOHN YOUNG

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

APPENDIX

Factories Act, 1961

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (i)	No. on Reg- ister, (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written Notices. (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(1) Factories in which Sec- tions.1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Loc- al Authorities	1	4	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec- tion 7 is enforced by the Local Authority..	4	15	-	-
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding out-workers' Premises)	20	82	7	-
Total... ..	25	101	7	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found :-

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspec- tor. (4)	By H.M. Inspec- tor. (5)	Number of cases in which pro- secutions were in- stituted. (6)
Want of Cleanli- ness (S.1.)	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary Conven- iences (S.7.) (b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	5	5	-	-	-
Total	7	7	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork
(Section 133 and 134)

Nature of Work. (1.)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council. (3)	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. (5)	Notices served. (6)	Prosecutions. (7)
Wearing apparel Making etc.	23	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains and nets.	2	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers.	4	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and Upholstery	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	30	-	-	-	-	-

